

COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on Monday, 16 May, 2016 and reconvened on Tuesday, 17 May, 2016

Monday, 16 May 2016

Present: The Civic Mayor (Councillor Les Rowlands) in the Chair
Deputy Civic Mayor (Councillor Pat Hackett)

Councillors	RL Abbey	P Hayes	D Realey
	T Anderson	A Hodson	L Reecejones
	B Berry	K Hodson	L Rennie
	C Blakeley	T Johnson	D Roberts
	E Boulton	AER Jones	T Smith
	A Brighthouse	C Jones	W Smith
	P Brightmore	T Jones	C Spriggs
	D Burgess-Joyce	S Kelly	J Stapleton
	C Carubia	B Kenny	P Stuart
	P Cleary	A Leech	M Sullivan
	W Clements	I Lewis	A Sykes
	A Davies	AR McLachlan	T Usher
	G Davies	M McLaughlin	J Walsh
	P Davies	J McManus	W Ward
	WJ Davies	C Meaden	G Watt
	P Doughty	D Mitchell	S Whittingham
	D Elderton	B Mooney	J Williamson
	G Ellis	C Muspratt	I Williams
	S Foulkes	T Norbury	KJ Williams
	P Gilchrist	M Patrick	P Williams
	JE Green	T Pilgrim	S Williams

Apologies Councillors J Hale C Povall

Tuesday, 17 May 2016

Present: The Civic Mayor (Councillor Pat Hackett) in the Chair
Deputy Civic Mayor (Councillor Ann McLachlan)

Councillors	RL Abbey	JE Green	L Reecejones
	T Anderson	P Hayes	L Rennie
	B Berry	A Hodson	D Roberts
	C Blakeley	K Hodson	L Rowlands
	E Boulton	T Johnson	T Smith
	A Brighthouse	T Jones	W Smith

P Brightmore	S Kelly	C Spriggs
D Burgess-Joyce	B Kenny	P Stuart
C Carubia	A Leech	M Sullivan
P Cleary	I Lewis	A Sykes
W Clements	M McLaughlin	T Usher
A Davies	J McManus	J Walsh
G Davies	C Meaden	W Ward
P Davies	B Mooney	G Watt
WJ Davies	C Muspratt	S Whittingham
D Elderton	T Norbury	J Williamson
G Ellis	M Patrick	I Williams
S Foulkes	T Pilgrim	KJ Williams
P Gilchrist	D Realey	S Williams

<u>Apologies</u>	Councillors	P Doughty	D Mitchell
		J Hale	C Povall
		AER Jones	J Stapleton
		C Jones	

1 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Members of the Council were invited to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any matters to be determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

No such declarations were made.

2 **CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Civic Mayor thanked all those within the Council and throughout the Borough who had supported him and the Mayoress in the wide variety of activities that they had undertaken throughout his year of office. In particular, the Civic Mayor thanked, his Cadet, Coxswain Milo Noblet, all the staff of Civic Services for their valued assistance, and all those involved in the work of the Civic Mayor's Charity Fund. He then invited Wirral's Young Poet Laureate, Jessica Carney, to read a poem.

3 **ELECTION OF CIVIC MAYOR 2016/17**

The Civic Mayor invited nominations for election of the Civic Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

On a motion moved by Councillor Phil Davies, seconded by Councillor Jeff Green and, in the absence of any other nominations, it was:

Resolved (unanimously) – That Councillor Pat Hackett be elected Civic Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral for the 2016/17 municipal year.

Councillor Hackett proceeded to make his declaration of acceptance of office and the retiring Civic Mayor, Councillor Rowlands vacated the Chair. Councillor Hackett occupied the Chair.

The new Civic Mayor welcomed his guests and spoke to his election.

4 **DEPUTY CIVIC MAYOR 2016/17**

The Civic Mayor invited nominations for the appointment of a Deputy Civic Mayor for the ensuing municipal year.

On a motion moved by Councillor Phil Davies, seconded by Councillor Jeff Green, and in the absence of any other nominations, it was:

Resolved (unanimously) – That Councillor Ann McLachlan be appointed Deputy Civic Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Wirral for the 2016/17 municipal year.

Councillor McLachlan proceeded to make her declaration of acceptance of office.

5 **ADJOURNMENT**

The Council agreed, without a vote, pursuant to Standing Order 5A (1), that the meeting stand adjourned to 6.00pm on Tuesday, 17 May 2016.

RECONVENED ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

Annual Council reconvened at 6.00pm on Tuesday 17 May 2016.

6 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Members of the Council were invited to consider whether they had any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any matter to be debated or determined at this meeting and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of such interest.

No such declarations were made.

7 **CIVIC MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Civic Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting, including the public and the seven newly Elected Members and those Members successfully re-elected.

The Civic Mayor noted that apologies for absence were received from Councillors Paul Doughty, John Hale, Adrian Jones, Chris Jones, Dave Mitchell, Cherry Povall and Jean Stapleton.

The Civic Mayor asked that the best wishes of the Council be sent to Councillor John Hale who was currently unwell.

The Civic Mayor reminded all Members of the extraordinary Council meeting to be held on Friday, 20 May, for the awarding of the posthumous Freedom of the Borough to PC David Phillips.

He also announced that he would be abstaining on all votes throughout the year.

8 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 14 March and 4 April, 2016 had been circulated to Members and, it was –

Resolved – That the minutes be approved and adopted as a correct record.

9 **PETITIONS**

In accordance with Standing Order 21, the Civic Mayor received petitions submitted by –

(i). Councillor Chris Blakeley on behalf of 536 signatories calling upon the Council to stop lending money to other Councils at 'mates rates' and instead spend money on local services such as keeping Girtrell Court open.

(ii). Councillor Sykes on behalf of 355 signatories calling upon the Council to reinstate the Wirral Passport for long-serving retirees of Wirral Council.

Resolved – That the petitions be noted and referred to the appropriate Chief Officer in accordance with Standing Order 34.

10 **ELECTION RESULTS - 5 MAY 2016**

The Chief Executive/Returning Officer presented a summary of the results of the Local Government Elections held on 5 May 2016.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

11 **LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Leader of the Council confirmed appointments to his Cabinet for 2016/17 as follows:

Portfolio	Councillor	Party	Address	Ward
Leader, Strategic Economic Development, Finance & Devolution	Phil Davies Leader of the Council	Labour	16 Westbourne Grove West Kirby Wirral CH48 4DL	Birkenhead and Tranmere
Housing and Community Safety	George Davies Deputy Leader	Labour	46 Shamrock Road Claughton Birkenhead Wirral CH41 0EQ	Claughton
Transformation, Leisure & Culture	Ann McLachlan	Labour	27 Danefield Road Greasby Wirral CH49 3BP	Bidston and St James
Adult Social Care	Christine Jones	Labour	10 Elmswood Road Seacombe Wallasey Wirral CH44 8DB	Seacombe
Children and Family Services	Tony Smith	Labour	27 South Drive Upton Wirral CH49 6LA	Upton
Community Engagement and Communications	Matthew Patrick	Labour	Flat 4 78 Shrewsbury Road Oxton Birkenhead Wirral CH43 2HY	Upton
Environment	Bernie Mooney	Labour	30 Brompton Avenue Liscard Wallasey Wirral CH44 0BD	Liscard
Highways and Infrastructure	Stuart Whittingham	Labour	16 Fender Way Prenton Birkenhead Wirral CH43 7ZJ	Upton
Public Health	Janette Williamson	Labour	Flat 1 70 Park Road West Birkenhead Wirral CH43 8SF	Liscard

The Leader outlined the changes he had made to some of the Cabinet portfolios and the new Cabinet portfolios he had introduced, Community Engagement and Communications and Public Health.

He thanked outgoing Councillors Adrian Jones and Chris Meaden for their services to the Cabinet over the past twelve months.

Resolved – That the Cabinet appointments be noted.

12 **MATTERS REQUIRING APPROVAL BY THE COUNCIL**

The Council was requested to consider the reports of the Head of Legal and Member Services on the following matters –

- (i) Appointments and Constitution of Council Committees and the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs to such Committees.
- (ii) Appointments to Statutory and Advisory Committees, Working Parties and Panels.
- (iii) Appointment of Members (and/or other individuals) to Outside Bodies and Organisations.

In response to a question from Councillor Jeff Green, the Leader of the Council confirmed that potential changes to scrutiny arrangements would be introduced.

The Head of Legal and Member Services confirmed that a report would be taken to Cabinet on 6 June with the proposal then being considered by an extraordinary meeting of the Council on 27 June, 2016. The report would include details on the full scope of changes and terms of reference for the proposed new Committees and some changes to the calendar of meetings. Members would also have the opportunity to scrutinise the proposals at a meeting of the Coordinating Policy and Performance Committee on 15 June, 2016.

In respect of the first matter requiring approval, it was moved by Councillor Phil Davies, seconded by Councillor George Davies, and

Resolved (58:0) (One abstention) –

- (1) That for the 2016/17 municipal year the total number of Committee places (excluding those on the Cabinet and Constituency Committees) shall be 133 and the places shall be allocated in the following proportions:**

Committee	Places	Labour	Conservative	Liberal Dem.	Green
Audit and Risk Management	9	5	3	1	
Employment and Appointments	8	5	2	1	
Licensing Act 2003 Committee	15	10	4	1	
Licensing, Health and Safety and GP	9	5	3	1	
Pensions	10	6	3	0	1
Planning	13	7	4	1	1
Standards and Constitutional Oversight	9	5	3	1	
Coordinating Committee P & P	15	9	5	1	
Families and Wellbeing P & P	15	9	5	1	
Regeneration and Environment P & P	15	9	5	1	
Transformation and Resources P & P	15	9	5	1	
Total	133	79	42	10	2

- (2) That the Chairs of the above Committees be allocated to the Labour Group along with the Vice-Chairs
- (3) That the nominations for places on committees be submitted by the respective Political Group Leaders to the Head of Legal and Member Services and be as set out in Appendix A to the minutes of this meeting.
- (4) That the ongoing nominations of Diocesan and Parent Governor representatives on the Coordinating Committee and Families and Wellbeing Policy and Performance Committee be noted.

In respect of appointments to Statutory and Advisory Committees, Working Parties and Panels it was moved by Councillor Phil Davies, seconded by Councillor George Davies and –

Resolved (58:0) (One abstention) - That the numbers be agreed for each appointment to Statutory and Advisory Committees, Working Parties and Panels for the 2016/2017 municipal year, including the proportional split where appropriate, and the nominations be submitted by the

respective Political Group Leaders to the Head of Legal and Member Services and be as set out in Appendix B to the minutes of this meeting.

In respect of appointments to Outside Bodies and Organisations, it was moved by Councillor Phil Davies, seconded by Councillor George Davies and

–

Resolved (58:0) (One abstention) - That the numbers be agreed for each appointment of Members (and/or other individuals) to all Outside Bodies for the 2016/2017 municipal year, including the proportional split, where appropriate, and the nominations be submitted by the respective Political Group Leaders (and Chief Executive in respect of Council Officer nominations) to the Head of Legal and Member Services and be as set out in Appendix C to the minutes of this meeting.

Responding to a question from Councillor Gilchrist, the Leader of the Council confirmed that new arrangements on the Combined Authority and the devolution deal were due to be published and regular reports on the devolution deal would be brought to the Council. A new constitution for the Combined Authority would be considered by the Combined Authority at its Annual Meeting on 17 June and there would be a six week period when the new legal framework could be considered by the six constituent authorities. There was currently a Combined Authority Scrutiny Panel and the Government was in the process of producing guidance as to how scrutiny arrangements would work in future and as soon as this information was available it would be circulated.

Appendix A - Committee Membership 2016/17

Appendix B - Statutory and Advisory Committees, Working Parties and Panels 2016/17

Appendix C - Outside Bodies 2016/17